

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-11 /159 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6892

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PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, GATT
SUBJECT: GATT COUNCIL - MARCH 14

FOLLOWING ARE OUR COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ITEMS
ON GATT COUNCIL AGENDA:

A. CONSULTATION WITH HUNGARY -- ROUTINE NOTING.
HUNGARIAN REP MAY USE OPPORTUNITY TO BERATE EC OVER DIS-
CRIMINATORY RESTRAINTS. WE NOTE FROM PRESS REPORTS THAT
U.S. HAS CONCLUDED MFN AGREEMENT WITH HUNGARY, AND WE
MAY WISH TO SO INFORM CPS UNDER THIS ITEM.

B. BANGKOK AGREEMENT -- ROUTINE NOTING.

C. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS RESTRICTIONS:

(1) PAKISTAN -- BOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (JAGMETTI),
IN INTRODUCING THIS TOPIC, WILL POINT OUT THAT COMMITTEE
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EXAMINED LARGER ECONOMIC PICTURE INCLUDING RESTRAINTS ON
EXPORTS OF PAKISTANI GOODS. WE EXPECT THAT PAKISTANI
REP (HAMID) MAY REPEAT SOME OF THE POINTS HE MADE IN
CG-18 MEETING WITH RESPECT TO COMPOSITION OF BOP COMMITTEE
AND ITS PROCEDURES, ALTHOUGH HE MAY BE RESTRAINED SOME-
WHAT BY PRESENCE OF HIS AMBASSADOR IN THE CHAIR. U.S.
DEL SHOULD HAVE LATITUDE TO RESPOND TO ANY PAKISTANI

STATEMENT IF NECESSARY POINTING OUT THAT THE CONSULTATION WITH PAKISTAN DIFFERED FROM PREVIOUS ONES IN THAT IT EXAMINED THE BROADER ECONOMIC SITUATION FACING PAKISTAN. IN THIS SENSE CONSULTATION MET SOME OF CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND WAS USEFUL TO COMMITTEE AND PAKISTAN, AS WAS ACKNOWLEDGED BY PAK DEL.

(2) PORTUGAL -- ROUTINE NOTING.

(3) TURKEY -- SINCE CONSULTATIONS WITH TURKEY, GOT HAS DEVALUED THE LIRA AND TAKEN OTHER ECONOMIC MEASURES. WE MAY WISH TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THESE POLICY CHANGES AND NOTE THAT APPROVAL OF WAIVER TO INCREASE LEVEL OF STAMP DUTY WAS VIEWED BY COMMITTEE AS TEMPORARY MEASURE PENDING ENACTMENT OF MORE FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMIC MEASURES. SINCE GOT IS IN PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING SUCH MEASURES INCLUDING DEVALUATION, WE COULD URGE GOT TO CONSIDER LOWERING STAMP DUTY.

(4) MINI-CONSULTATIONS WITH ARGENTINA, CHILE AND INDIA -- INDIAN REP AND OTHER LDCS MAY USE THIS ITEM TO REPEAT THEIR INTERPRETATION OF MINI-PROCEDURES. U.S. DEL SHOULD RESPOND AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN BALANCED RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS. BOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILL, IN HIS STATEMENT, EMPHASIZE THAT THE COMMITTEE FOUND THAT ARGENTINA AND CHILE NO LONGER NEEDED TO CONSULT WITH THE COMMITTEE.
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(5) 1978 CONSULTATIONS -- ROUTINE NOTING.

D. PANEL REPORT ON ANIMAL FEED PROTEINS -- WE RECOMMEND THAT U.S. MAKE LOW-KEY STATEMENT THANKING PANEL AND SECRETARIAT FOR THEIR ENDEAVOR IN COMPLETING PANEL WORK. WE SHOULD NOT ADDRESS SUBSTANCE OF PANEL REPORT UNLESS NECESSARY TO REBUT POSSIBLE EC STATEMENT.

E. U.S. WAIVER FOR AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT -- WE EXPECT THAT AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, AND PERHAPS THE COMMUNITY AND CANADA MAY AGAIN FEEL IT NECESSARY TO MAKE COMMENTS FOR THE RECORD ALONG LINES OF THOSE IN C/M/117. U.S. DEL SHOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND POINTING OUT THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN MTN MAY DEAL WITH SEVERAL OF THE CONCERNS VOICED BY OTHER CPS.

F. ANGLO-IRISH FREE-TRADE AREA -- ROUTINE NOTING.

G. BRAZIL EXTENSION OF WAIVER -- U.S. DEL SHOULD SUPPORT WAIVER BUT EXPRESS AS APPROPRIATE HOPE THAT BRAZIL WILL ACCELERATE PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS.

H. TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT -- COUNCIL DECISION ALLOW-
ING PREFERENCES BETWEEN INDIA, EGYPT AND YUGOSLAVIA IS
DUE TO EXPIRE MARCH 31, 1978. THE THREE COUNTRIES HAVE
EXTENDED THEIR AGREEMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE-YEAR
PERIOD AND WILL BE REQUESTING A FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION OF
COUNCIL DECISION ALONG LINES OF 1973 FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION.
AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REVIEWED IN WORKING PARTIES TWICE,
THE LAST TIME IN 1973. SINCE THAT TIME THERE HAVE BEEN
FEW CHANGES IN THE AGREEMENT AND LITTLE GROWTH OF PRE-
FERENTIAL TRADE. UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED, WORKING
PARTY WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY BE ESTABLISHED. WE RECOM-
MEND U.S. AGREEMENT TO EXTEND DECISION ON SIMILAR TERMS
TO THAT OF 1973 EXTENSION BUT SEE LITTLE USE IN CALLING
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FOR A WORKING PARTY.

I. ISRAEL ADJUSTMENT OF SPECIFIC DUTIES -- SEE
GENEVA 3281 FOR U.S. DEL RECOMMENDATIONS.

J. FINAL POSITION OF 1977 BUDGET -- SEE GENEVA 3191

FOR SUMMARY OF BUDGET. U.S. DEL SHOULD JOIN IN ROUTINE NOTING.

K. EXPORT INFLATION INSURANCE SCHEMES -- CANADIANS HAVE CIRCULATED SUGGESTED TERMS OF REFERENCE (SEE GENEVA 3121) TO INTERESTED PARTIES. THEY EXPECT THAT FRANCE, UK AND PERHAPS FINLAND MAY WANT TO BROADEN TERMS OF REFERENCE (PERHAPS TO INCLUDE EXCHANGE GUARANTEE SCHEMES) BUT HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED ANY REQUESTS FOR CHANGES. AS PER STATE 003375, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CANADIAN EFFORT.

L. DISC AND RELATED TAX PRACTICES -- SEE SEPTTEL. SORENSON

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